

We Claim:

1. An apparatus for detecting fingerprints, comprising:

a reading unit for scanning a finger;

an image processing unit connected to said reading unit for producing an image of the finger;

a data interface connected to said image processing unit and being based on a standard for changeable memory cards holding large volumes of data; and

a housing holding said reading unit and said image processing unit and having a portion with a housing shape for receiving the changeable memory cards.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the standard is a multimedia card standard.
3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image processing unit produces data readable by a reader for the memory cards.
4. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said image processing unit produces data readable by a reader for the memory cards and conforming to the multimedia card standard.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image processing unit is configured to ascertain minutiae of a recorded image of the finger and to read the minutiae via said data interface.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the volumes of data holdable on the memory cards is large.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the volumes of data holdable on the memory cards is at least one megabyte.